

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A fixing member comprising:
an elastic layer including heat resistance rubber provided on ~~onto~~ a substrate; and
a separation layer including fluorocarbon resin provided on ~~onto~~ said elastic layer,
wherein said fluorocarbon resin has ~~is that~~ a tensile strength such that ~~[[of]]~~ a 30 μ m
coating film baked ~~burned~~ at 340°C has a tensile strength ~~[[is]]~~ equal to or greater than 25
MPa, and

the separation layer is baked on the elastic layer at a temperature lower than an
oxidation starting temperature of the heat resistance rubber.

Claim 2 (Original): The fixing member according to Claim 1, wherein said heat
resistance rubber comprises silicone rubber or fluorosilicone rubber as a major component.

Claim 3 (Original): The fixing member according to Claim 1, wherein said
fluorocarbon resin comprises Tetrafluoroethylene-Perfluoroalkylvinylether copolymer resin
(PFA) as a major component.

Claim 4 (Original): The fixing member according to Claim 1, wherein said separation
layer contains inorganic filler.

Claim 5 (Original): The fixing member according to Claim 4, wherein said inorganic
filler comprises carbon.

Claim 6 (Original): The fixing member according to Claim 5, wherein a content of said carbon is from 1 mass % to 5 mass %.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The fixing member according to Claim 1, wherein said substrate is a roller made of a metal member including aluminum, stainless steel ~~still~~, brass, or iron.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The fixing member according to Claim 1, wherein said substrate is (a) a sheet or an endless belt made of a metal member including stainless steel ~~still~~, or nickel, (b) a sheet or an endless belt made of heat resistance rubber including polyimide or polyamideimide, or (c) a laminated sheet or an endless belt in which said (a) and (b) are laminated.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus comprising ~~comprises~~ the fixing member according to Claim 1.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): A manufacturing method of a fixing member comprising the steps of:

forming a first primer layer by applying first primer onto a substrate;

forming an elastic layer by applying heat resistance synthetic rubber solution onto said first primer layer;

forming a second primer layer by applying second primer onto said elastic layer;

forming a fluorocarbon resin applied layer by applying dispersion liquid or powdered paint including fluorocarbon resin with which a tensile strength of a 30 μ m coating film

burned at 340°C is equal or greater than 25MPa as a major component onto said second primer layer; and

burning said fluorocarbon resin applied layer with a burning temperature which is equal or higher than 340°C and less than a temperature for starting oxidation of the heat resistance synthetic rubber constituting said elastic layer.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 10, wherein said heat resistance synthetic rubber solution comprises silicone rubber or fluorosilicone rubber as a major component.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 10, wherein said fluorocarbon resin comprises Tetrafluoroethylene-Perfluoroalkylvinylether copolymer resin (PFA).

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 10, wherein said dispersion liquid or said powdered paint contains inorganic filler.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 13, wherein said inorganic filler comprises a carbon.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 14, wherein a content of said carbon is from 1 mass % to 5 mass %.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 10, wherein said substrate is a roller made of a metal member including aluminum, stainless still, brass, or iron.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The manufacturing method of the fixing member according to Claim 10, wherein said substrate is (a) a sheet or an endless belt made of a metal member including stainless still or nickel, (b) a sheet or an endless belt made of a metal member including polyimide or polyamideimide, or (c) a laminated sheet or an endless belt in which said (a) and (b) are laminated.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): A manufacturing method of an image forming apparatus comprising the steps of:

forming a first primer layer by applying first primer onto a substrate;

forming an elastic layer by applying heat resistance synthetic rubber solution onto said first primer layer;

forming a second primer layer by applying second primer onto said elastic layer;

forming a fluorocarbon resin applied layer by applying dispersion liquid or powdered paint including fluorocarbon resin with which a tensile strength of a 30 μ m coating film burned at 340°C is equal or greater than 25MPa as a major component onto said second primer layer;

burning said fluorocarbon resin applied layer with a burning temperature which is equal or higher than 340°C and less than a temperature for starting oxidation of the heat resistance synthetic rubber constructing said elastic layer; and

incorporating the fixing member obtained by said steps into an image forming apparatus.